

## IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows. At page 1 prior to line 3, insert the heading and subheading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION  
FIELD OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 1, prior to line 5, insert the subheading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATED ART--.

At page 2, prior to line 8, insert the heading --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

At page 3, prior to line 14, insert the heading --BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

At page 5, prior to line 6, insert the heading --DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS--.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 10 of page 6 as follows:

~~31 and 32 respectively denote the~~ The cross-bar 22 includes  
a tubular end portion 35 having upper and lower short sides 31  
and 32, respectively, of the tubular part of the cross-bar 22.  
~~33 and 34 respectively denote the~~ and opposite lateral or long  
sides 33 and 34 of this part. 35 denotes the tubular part of the  
extremity 28 in which the The pieces 25 and 26 are introduced  
into the end portion 35. This part The end portion 35 is  
separated from the terminal part 29a of the heald-carrier rod 29

by a groove or open slot 36 which extends, from the terminal face 28a of the extremity 28, in a direction  $Y_{36}-Y'_{36}$  parallel to a longitudinal axis  $Y_{22}-Y'_{22}$  of the cross-bar 22.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 17 of page 6 as follows.

Assembly of elements 21 and 22 takes place by immobilizing the protuberance or projection 21a between the jaws 23 and 24 thanks to the tightening of a ~~manoeuvring~~ screw 37. Due to the jaws 23 and 24 approaching each other, represented by arrows  $F_2$  and  $F'_2$ , the pieces 25 and 26 exert on the sides 31 and 32 a locking effort or force represented by arrows  $F_3$  and  $F'_3$ . This effort is exerted through an element 27 made of elastomer disposed under stress between each piece 25 or 26 and the nearest short side 31 or 32. This elastomeric element is in accordance with the technical teaching of FR-A-2 681 614.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 7 as follows.

In order to be able efficiently to resist this effort of locking without risk of tearing the part or end portion 35 of the cross-bar 22, a hoop 40 is disposed around this part 35, being partially engaged in the groove 36. This hoop 40 is constituted by a sheet-metal plate bent around the part 35 and immobilized there around by cooperation of shapes and thanks to two screws 41 screwed in tapped orifices 42a of a counter-plate 42 introduced inside the part 35. The screws 41 also pass

through a plate 43 for distributing over the length of the hoop 40 an effort  $F_5$  of tightening of its respective edges 40a and 40b on the side 31 of the part 35.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 12 of page 8 as follows.

~~144a, 144'a, 146a and 146'a respectively denote the wedging surfaces provided on the~~ The wedges 144, 144' and 146 include wedging surfaces 144a, 144'a, 146a and 146'a , respectively, surface 146'a being the one of the wedge 146 intended to cooperate with the surface 144'a.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 12 as follows.

The tubular end portion 935 of the cross-bar 922 includes ~~931 and 932 respectively denote the upper and lower short sides 931 and 932, respectively, and of the tubular part of the cross-bar 922. 933 and 934 respectively denote the lateral long sides 933 and 934. of this part. 935 denotes the tubular part of the extremity~~ Extremity 928 includes a tubular portion or part 935 in which the protuberance 921a is introduced. This part 935 is separated from the terminal part 929a of the heald-carrier rod 929 by a groove or slot 936 which extends, from the terminal face 928a of the extremity 928, in a direction  $Y_{936}-Y'_{936}$  parallel to a longitudinal axis  $Y_{922}-Y'_{922}$  of the cross-bar 922.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 15 of page 12 as follows.

Surfaces or ramps 944a, 944'a, 946a and 946'a respectively ~~denote the surfaces or ramps for slide~~ are provided on the wedges 944, 944' and 946, surface 946'a being that of the wedge 946 intended to cooperate with surface 944'a. Surfaces 944a and 944'a are inclined with respect to the longitudinal axis of the screw 945, i.e. to the longitudinal axis  $Y_{922}-Y'_{922}$ , by two angles  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$  of opposite directions and of the same absolute value.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 8 of page 15 as follows.

Surfaces 1044a and 1044'a respectively ~~denote the surfaces~~ of ~~[[these]]~~ wedges 1044 and 1044' ~~forming ramp~~ form ramps. These surfaces cooperate respectively with surfaces 1021c and 1021d forming ramp provided on the protuberance 1021a, with angles of inclination  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$ , with respect to the longitudinal axis of the screw 1045 and to axis  $Y_{1022}-Y'_{1022}$ , of opposite direction and with the same absolute values.